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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /074 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:EK
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
AF/S:DPETTERSON
AF:WEDMONDSON
IO/UNP:RLBARRY
IO:GBHELMAN
S/S:FWISNER
----------096804 181656Z /64
O 181623Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043983

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON PROXIMITY TALKS
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1. FOR AMBASSADOR/CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN FAVORABLE MOMENTUM DEVELOPED AT FEBRUARY 11-12 PROXIMITY TALKS ON NAMIBIA AND TO INSURE CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS BY FRONT LINE STATES AND NIGERIANS. AS PART OF THIS EFFORT, YOU SHOULD REQUEST APPOINTMENT AT HIGHEST

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POSSIBLE LEVEL TO PRESENT SECRETARY'S EVALUATION OF THE PROXIMITY TALKS AND PROSPECTS FOR NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT ALONG LINES OF TALKING POINTS BELOW.

2. (A) REAL PROGRESS WAS ACHIEVED DURING THE TALKS. THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MOST INTERESTED AFRICAN STATES WAS VERY IMPORTANT IN ACHIEVING THIS SUCCESS, ANDI APPRECIATE YOUR DECISION TO SEND (INSERT NAME OF SENIOR HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL(S) WHO ATTENDED TALKS) TO NEW YORK FOR THE PROXIMITY TALKS.

(B) WHILE FINAL AGREEMENT WAS NOT ACHIEVED, WE WERE ABLE TO REDUCE AREA OF DISAGREEMENT SUBSTANTIALLY.

(C) IN EFFECT, AFTER THE TALKS WE FIND TWO PRINCIPAL OUTSTANDING ISSUES: THE LOCATION AND SIZE OF THE SMALL RESIDUAL SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY FORCE WHICH WILL BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN NAMIBIA UNTIL JUST AFTER ELECTIONS TO A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND THE STATUS OF WALVIS BAY.

(D) THERE ARE OTHER POINTS ON WHICH THERE IS LESS THAN FULL AGREEMENT AMONG THE PARTIES, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT NONE OF THESE IS SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO PREVENT A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IF WE ARE ABLE TO RESOLVE THE TWO REMAINING KEY ISSUES.

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(E) NEW YORK TALKS INDICATE THAT THERE IS OPPORTUNITY, IF WE MOVE FORCEFULLY IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, TO ACHIEVE FULLY-ACCEPTABLE NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT.

(F) WE HAVE COMMON INTEREST IN THIS OBJECTIVE. SUCCESS WILL NOT ONLY BRING NAMIBIA TO INDEPENDENCE, BUT THE TYPE OF SETTLEMENT PROPOSED BY THE CONTACT GROUP MAY HAVE DIRECT BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON RHODESIAN SITUATION BY DEMONSTRATINGING THAT THERE IS AN EFFECTIVE ALTERNA-TIVE TO AN INTERNAL SOLUTION.

(G) AT PRESENT, THE CONTACT GROUP IS WORKING TO CLARIFY VARIOUS POINTS IN THE PROPOSAL TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE COMMENTS OF VARIOUS INTERESTED PARTIES. IN THE COMING WEEKS, THE MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP WILL LOOK FOR YOUR CONTINUING COUNSEL AND SUPPORT, INCLUDING YOUR ASSISTANCE IN URGING SWAPO TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS REMAINING TO ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE FOR NAMIBIA PEACEFULLY.

(H) WE SHALL ALSO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SOUTH AFRICAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONTACT GROUP'S PROPOSAL.

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3. FOR LAGOS: ABOVE TALKING POINTS SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO REFLECT FACT THAT NIGERIANS DID NOT SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO NEW YORK BUT WERE REPRESENTED DURING PROXIMITY TALKS BY DEPUTY UN PERMREP GEORGE.

4. FOR USUN: ABOVE TALKING POINTS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ANGOLAN PERMREP DE FIGUEIREDO FOR TRANSMISSION TO PRESIDENT NETO, WITH FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINT: ONE PARTICULAR ISSUE STILL OUTSTANDING, WHICH IS OF

PARTICULAR CONCERN TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, INVOLVES UN PRESENCE IN SOUTHERN ANGOLA TO MONITOR SWAPO FORCES THERE. WE URGE THAT YOU CONSIDER SUCH ARRANGEMENTS
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FAVORABLY AS THEY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO STABILIZATION OF SITUATION AND DEPRIVE SOUTH AFRICANS OF ARGUMENT FOR RETAINING FORCES IN NAMIBIA BEYOND INDEPENDENCE OR IN LARGER NUMBERS THAN CONTACT GROUP HAS PROPOSED.

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Message Attributes

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